



Dell Response to “Leap Second” issue [updated 28 November 2016, originally posted 31 March 2015]

Technical Summary

A leap second is a periodic one-second adjustment of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) in order to keep a system's time in synch with the mean solar time. Leap seconds do not occur regularly. The last leap second was added on 30 June, 2015 at 23:59:60 UTC. The next leap second will be at the end of 31 December, 2016 at 23:59:60 UTC.

Some Linux versions were previously unable to handle the insertion of a leap second, but have been patched. Note: Windows products are not affected.

Conditions/Requirements

All three of the following must be in use to be open to the issue:

- Using a Linux operating system with the older kernel version that has not been patched
- Use of NTP server
- Use of NIST NTP leap second tables
 - Note: Leap second tables are optional, and must be loaded by the IT Admin

Dell Response

While there are a few Dell products that ship with the older versions of the Linux kernel, our current analysis of these products show that they are not affected by this issue. This conclusion is based on considerable testing [using tools to simulate leap second](#).

While iDRAC7 and CMC do meet the criteria listed above, there is no issue noted with leap second. These programs will take ~9 minutes to re-sync time, if there is any change in NTP server time. There is no loss of functionality during this time.

UNAFFECTED PRODUCTS

| PRODUCT | VERSIONS |
|--|----------|
| DRAC5 | All |
| iDRAC6 with Lifecycle Controller | All |
| iDRAC7 with Lifecycle Controller | All |
| iDRAC8 with Lifecycle Controller | All |
| Chassis Management Controller (CMC) | All |
| Baseboard Management Controller (BMC) | All |
| OpenManage Integration with VMware vCenter | All |
| Dell Lifecycle Controller Integration (DLCI) for Microsoft System Center Virtual Machine Manager (SCVMM) | All |
| Dell Tool Kit (DTK) | All |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Active System Manager (ASM) | All |
| Dell iDRAC Service Module (iSM) | All |
| Dell Connectors for CA/IBM/HP | All |
| Dell Plug-in for Oracle Enterprise Manager | All |
| Dell OpenManage Server Administrator (OMSA) | All |
| Dell OpenManage Power Center (OMPC) | All |
| Dell OpenManage Mobile (OMM) | All |
| Dell OpenManage Essentials (OME) | All |
| Dell Repository Manager | All |
| Dell YUM Repository | All |
| Dell Update Package (DUP) | All |
| Dell System Build and Update Utility (SBUU) | All |

Dell Best Practices regarding iDRAC

DRAC's are intended to be on a separate management network; they are not designed nor intended to be placed on or connected to the internet. Doing so could expose the connected system to security and other risks for which Dell is not responsible.

Along with locating DRACs on a separate management subnet, users should isolate the management subnet/VLAN with technologies such as firewalls, and limit access to the subnet/VLAN to authorized server administrators.

Dell Best Practices regarding OS/hypervisors

Dell advises reviewing and updating your OS/hypervisor as per your vendor's recommendation.